

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A time-to-contact estimate determination system for generating an estimate as to the time-to-contact of a vehicle moving along a roadway with an obstacle comprising:
  - A. an image receiver configured to receive image information relating to a series of at least two images as the vehicle moves along a roadway; and characterized by
  - B. a processor configured to determine a scaling factor that defines a ratio between dimensions of the obstacle in the images and uses the ratio process the image information received by the image receiver to generate a time-to-contact estimate of the vehicle with the obstacle.
2. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the scaling factor defines a ratio between vertical dimensions of the obstacle in the images and uses the ratio to estimate the time-to-contact.
3. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the scaling factor defines a ratio between horizontal dimensions of the obstacle in the images and uses the ratio to estimate the time-to-contact.
4. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the at least two images comprises more than two images.
5. (New) A method according to claim 4 wherein the processor processes the image information to determine a lateral displacement of the object relative to a position of the vehicle.
6. (New) A method according to claim 5 wherein the processor determines a likelihood of collision responsive to whether or not the lateral displacement substantially uniformly approaches zero.